bethan that prevailed about 1554, and that Messrs. Branson and Gwythir's contract is 5,006*l*., the materials employed being red brick and Derbyshire stone.——The Streets and Sewerage Committee of Wolverhampton have obtained tenders for the proposed survey and maps of that town from twenty parties, the highest figure being 1,264*l*., and the lowest 274*l*.! Some required two years for the completion of the maps and plans, others asked only for three months: one solicited "reasonable time," and the lowest tender required nine months. The lowest estimate (that of Mr. Hoggar, of Oxford, for 274*l*.) was accepted, subject to an undertaking on his part to complete the same in such a manner as shall meet the approval of the General Board of Health, or in default of such approval the contract to be cancelled without any remuneration to Mr. Hoggar.——It is proposed to erect a market-house and town-hall at Swindon, at a cost of about 1,200*l*.: upwards of 500*l*. have been realized in shares of 5*l*. each.——A demonstration—remarkable for its originating among the workers themselves—has been made at Macclesfield in support of a free library and reading-room for the industrious classes, with pleasure grounds and a gymnasium, in which healthful recreation may be enjoyed. Should this scheme be worked as energetically as that for the establishment of baths and washhouses, Macclesfield, as observed by the *Manchester Spectator*, will take a high rank in the list of towns in which decided popular progress is being made.——The bell of St. Alban's Church, Liverpool, owing to a screw giving way, fell with a "tremendous crash" through three floors on Sunday in week before last. Had the accident occurred one minute either before or after, the consequences must have been fatal to one or more human lives. The damage done to the church is considerable.——An experiment has been made to demonstrate the height to which the water from the New Derby Waterworks would rise in the town. The hose was laid across the church-yard to the foot of All Saints' Tower, and the nozzle connected with one end of 155 feet of gutta percha tubing of ¾-inch bore. The other end of the tubing was slightly bent, so as to deliver the water downwards, and being attached to a line let down from the top of the tower, was hoisted up to within a few feet of the battlements. The water was then turned on at the hydrant, and the persons who held the line above were signalled to lower it until the water ran out of the end of the tube, which would, of course, determine the height to which it would rise. When the end of the tube reached a point ascertained to be 124 feet 8 inches from the foot of the tower, the water appeared. By taking the supply from the storage reservoir, it is said, an additional height of 20 feet might be obtained, making 144 feet 8 inches.——The price of gas at Nottingham is to be still further reduced, says a local paper, "and no doubt the company will be amply repaid for their liberality by an increased consumption of gas in the dwelling-houses and small shops, where it has not been yet introduced."——A proposal by the Kidderminster Council to grant a lease of premises over the market entrance, to the Peel memorial committee, at 20*l*. a year, on condition that 1,000*l*. should be spent on the building, and the mayor be made a trustee, has been almost unanimously rejected. The subscriptions now amount to upwards of 550*l*. and the subscribers have resolved to exert themselves in increasing the amount and then to elect trustees and fix on a site.——The purchasers of the intended site for the Blackburn Exchange have concluded to proceed with their project by means of public subscriptions, each subscriber to receive a *pro rata* dividend on the amount subscribed, as the profits from the undertaking shall accrue. This course will enable them to avoid the surveillance of the Joint-Stock Companies Act, and will give them complete management of their own affairs. It is still estimated that 20,000*l*. will more than cover the whole of the expenditure. About half the sum, it is said, has been promised by a limited number of local firms.——A monument has just been erected in the Woodhouse Cemetery, Leeds, to a local celebrity, Dr. Hamilton. It is above 23 feet in height, covers a space of 7 feet square at the base, and is composed of a base, or pedestal, supporting four Grecian Doric columns, 6 feet 6 inches high, surmounted by an architrave, frieze, and cornice, &c.——On Friday, in week before last, the workmen employed in the erection of the new union workhouse, at Bradford, numbering about 100, were entertained to supper at the house of Mr. Abraham Priestly, one of the contractors for the mason work. The guardians having voted 5*l*., the master contractors for the various works, having nearly completed their contracts, provided the rest. After supper, the chair was taken by Mr. John Scholefield, of the firm of Guthrie and Scholefield, contractors for the plumbing, gas, &c.; and the vice-chair by Mr. W. Beanland, of the firm of W. and J. Beanland, contractors for the joiners' work. Mr. Gledhill, of the firm of Priestley and Gledhill, contractors for the masons' work, and other parties interested, were also present along with the workmen.——At the Sunderland baths and washhouses the number of bathers in the week ending April 23, was 433, making an average of upwards of 60 daily, and a total of 565 bathers (in ten days) since the establishment was opened to the public. The largest number of bathers in one week, at the Newcastle establishment, according to the *Gateshead Observer*, was 500: Sunderland, during the second week, counts 433. Only six baths are in full operation, other six being only partially so. The number of female bathers in ten days was 43.——Model dwelling-houses for the working-classes have been erected in Edinburgh, with all the necessary conveniences. They are a private speculation, and will pay 7½ per cent. on the outlay.——The Glasgow papers state that Mr. Buchanan, of Hillington and Auchintorlie, has resolved upon erecting a splendid mansion near the site of his present residence, which is to be taken down. The new building, it is said, will be one of the finest in the west of Scotland, and will cost, with improvements on the grounds, new offices, &c., 40,000*l*.

CHURCH BUILDING NEWS.

THE new Congregational Church, at East Retford, was opened on Good Friday. It is built of brick and stone, in the Anglo-Norman style, with 350 sittings. The side of the edifice is 52 feet by 25 feet inside, and is flanked on each side by a porch 10 feet by 8 feet 9 inches; making a total frontage of 59 feet. The roof is open, stained and varnished. The pulpit is low, and in form like a platform, resting upon a stone basement. A wheel window in front, and six other windows, are filled with stained glass. Underneath is a school-room. The whole, including cost of site, boundary walls, and railing, has been executed for about 1,450*l*. The church was erected by Messrs. Dawson, of Nottingham, from plans and specifications by Mr. J. C. Gilbert, architect, of same town.——The parish church of Newcastle-under-Lyne was re-opened on Sunday before last. The interior, under the superintendence of Messrs. R. Chapman and S. Mason, churchwardens, has undergone extensive renovation. The oak panelling of the chancel, which had been defaced by successive layers of paint and varnish, has been restored; the large windows reglazed and partly filled with coloured glass; and the floor of the chancel laid with encaustic tiles, from the manufactory of Messrs. Minton, of Stoke-upon-Trent, and the liberal gift of Mr. H. Minton. The whole of the interior of the church has been coloured, the oak pewing repaired, and, like the chancel, restored by removal of varnish and dust. The christening pew has been laid with encaustic tiles, and the marble font restored. The mural monuments have also been renovated. The tower has been strengthened, the whole of the paved approaches to the church relaid, and surface drains formed to keep them dry. The stone work of several of the windows has been renewed, and also a portion of the parapet coping. The cost of restoring the chancel, something like half the entire expense, will be defrayed by the rector.——The foundation-stone of St. Luke's Church, Bilston, was laid on Tuesday week. This church will contain 800 sittings, 600 of which will be free; and including 500*l*. for the site, is estimated to cost 3,500*l*. The building, we believe, is to be in the Early English style. The architects are Messrs. Johnson and Sons, of Lichfield, and the contractor Mr. John Robinson, of Redditch.—The church of Stoke next Guildford is under renovation. The pews have all been taken away; also the gallery, except a portion in front of the organ; and on removing the lath and plaster to open the timbers of the roof, it was found to be in such a state as to be unsafe: accordingly the whole of the old roof (except over the chancel and Stoughton chapel) has been removed, as well as the north-west wall; and it is feared the north wall is so loose and incapable of supporting a roof, that it must also be rebuilt. Very little, therefore, of the old structure will eventually remain, except the chancel and adjoining chapel, and the old tower.——On Sunday morning during service the roof of Sheerness church was found to be on fire. The cause it is supposed was a portion of soot from a funnel chimney being blown off and lodging against the lead covering of one of the hips, which resulted in the ignition of one of the rafters and a small portion of the slating boards.——The Roman Catholic chapel in Bugle-street, Southampton, which has been very greatly enlarged, and at least one-half rebuilt, from a Gothic design of Mr. Poole, of Southampton, architect, was opened on Sunday week.——A new church at Charlton, near Salisbury, was consecrated on Thursday in last week. The building is from the design of Mr. Wyatt, and consists of a single aisle, with raised chancel. It is an unpretending village church, constructed of brick intermixed with flint, and strongly faced with stone. The body of the church is lighted by seven windows at the sides, and two at the west end, surmounted by a small sexagonal light. The sittings are open, of a plain character, and, with the open timber-roof, are stained in imitation of oak. The style of the building is early English, of the most simple character. It will afford accommodation to about 200 persons. Mr. Thomas Crook, of Whiteparish, was the builder; and Mr. J. Street, of Redlynch, executed the wood work. The entire cost has not exceeded 1,500*l*.——St. Michael's Church, Gloucester, will shortly be ready for consecration. The carved east window has been filled with stained glass, executed by Hardman, of Birmingham. It represents St. Michael the Archangel in the centre, surrounded by different orders of angels.——St. Paul's Church, Devonport, was consecrated on Tuesday in last week. The designs for the erection of the edifice were drawn by Mr. J. Piers St. Aubyn, of Furnival's Inn, architect, under whose superintendence the work has been completed by Messrs. Goodyear and Roberts, of Stonehouse, contractors: clerk of works, Mr. Galbraith. The church is situated on the eastern side of Morice-square. It is capacious, but has no galleries. It is fitted with low benches, stained and varnished, in oak. The edifice is capable of accommodating 750 persons. It is 83 feet 6 inches long, and 62 feet wide; consisting of nave with aisles. The chancel is advanced into the church two bays, and is separated from the aisles by low screens. The steeple, 100 feet high, is on the north-west angle. The roof shows three separate gables, in which are large windows of net tracery. The east end has likewise windows in the gables with varied tracery. The district for which this church is erected forms a part of the parish of Stoke Damerel: it contains a population of 10,000.——A new Unitarian church is in course of erection in Grange-lane, Birkenhead, and is expected to be ready for public worship in August next. The architects are Messrs. Hornblower and Barry. The plan is cruciform, consisting of a nave 64 feet by 22 feet; north and south transepts, each 19 feet by 8 feet; and an engaged turret abutting against the south porch in second bay. Under the transepts are schools for boys and girls, with warming chamber and other offices to the eastward, over which is the vestry and stairs to

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